

FW: [REDACTED] i re-interveiw

[REDACTED]

Mon 1/6/2020 12:08 PM

To: [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED], [REDACTED] (OIG) [mailto:[REDACTED].gov]
Sent: Monday, December 30, 2019 1:56 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ov>
Cc: [REDACTED]@ov>
Subject: Re: [REDACTED] i re-interveiw

Hi [REDACTED],

Thank you and I hope that you are also enjoying the Holiday Season.

Thank you very much for providing this email to us. We will review all of the information and let you know if anything else is needed.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Special Agent in Charge
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of the Inspector General
New York Field Office
One Battery Park Plaza, 29th Floor
New York, NY 10004

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@ov

On Dec 30, 2019, at 2:46 PM, [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ov> wrote:

Hi [REDACTED].

I hope you and your family are having a nice holiday break.

I'm disappointed that I won't be re-interviewed, as you suggested and we discussed on our call in October. I don't even know where to begin in terms of sending you all my concerns about the

interview of SA [REDACTED] conducted with me last summer. To begin, SA [REDACTED] called me on my cell phone to ask me if I would agree to be interviewed about alleged bad behavior by a member of the NYO EM team and "an incident" that occurred at my transfer party in November at The Brass Monkey. I told him there was no reason to interview me as I was not aware of any bad behavior or incident at my party, and that I had left early to go to dinner. He told me that he wanted to travel to LA to show me a video and when I continued to hesitate about the need to interview me (because I had nothing to contribute about any bad behavior at my party) he told me that I would also have the floor to speak about inappropriate behavior in the NYO as the OIG was looking into a pattern of inappropriate behavior – and that was of interest to me. So I agreed.

SA [REDACTED] and SA [REDACTED] (of your CA office) interviewed me at your offices in LA on Tuesday, June 11th. SA [REDACTED] showed me a video from a camera inside The Brass Monkey from the night of my party that showed ASAC John Venturelli ([REDACTED]) and I saying goodbye to one another. SA [REDACTED] asked me what it appears to me was happening in the video, and I told him it *appears* that [REDACTED] touched my butt as he leaned in to hug me, but that I had no recollection of that ever happening. He then continued asking me questions about [REDACTED] to include had I ever been out socially with him and I responded that [REDACTED] and I were good friends and yes, I had been out socially with him and others from work to include a BBQ I hosted on the terrace of my own home.

I continued (in mitigation) that [REDACTED] is an incredibly dedicated and hardworking Agent and on one occasion after a group of us had gone downstairs to Colicchio and Sons on a Friday after work that I remember seeing an email from [REDACTED] Monday morning on the red side (our internal/classified system), which was clearly after he had left, based on the timestamp.

SA [REDACTED] rephrased what I had said back to me as "so you're saying [REDACTED] was drinking on the job?". Which is not at all what I said. I then said to him "that is not what I am saying – and I don't monitor what people drink, a glass that appears to be a vodka and cranberry can quite easily be simply a glass of cranberry juice." The inaccurate rephrasing of what I had said continued when SA [REDACTED] said to me "you said [REDACTED] touched your butt at your going away" ... and I again stopped him and said "no, that is not what I said", "you showed me a video and asked me what it appeared was happening, and I said it *appears* in the video that he touched my butt, but I never felt that and I am not saying he did." I should have stopped the interview at this point as I felt what I was saying was being very misinterpreted.

SA [REDACTED] then pivoted to asking me questions about inappropriate behavior in the NYO that I had witnessed (the issue that got me to agree to the interview in the first place). We spoke at length about two former NYO high-level members of the EM team and how horrific that had been for me. I also told SAs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that I knew of several colleagues who have had equal or worse experiences with sexual harassment in the NYO and would probably be willing to talk to them about it, if they really were trying to get to the bottom of a systemic problem. They said they would like to have their names and would contact them.

The interview on June 11th was very emotional for me (because of the discussion involving the two men who did harass me) and in retrospect should not have included discussions of several different people, which I now think has led to confusion about what was actually said – and about who.

After the meeting ended I apologized to SA [REDACTED] for having to move the original interview from Friday June 7th to Tuesday, June 11th due to firearms I had to attend. SA [REDACTED] told me

he had wanted to go to the Angels baseball game on the 7th – which I found to be wildly inappropriate and made me wonder why he had to come out and interview me in person. He could have sent that video to his colleagues in LA, who could have shown me.

On my way back to the office that day I called both my aforementioned female colleagues (now retired because this has taken so long) to ask if they would agree to be interviewed about their experiences and they did agree. I then sent SAs [REDACTED] r and [REDACTED] p an email the same day containing both Agents names and cell numbers advising them that they would speak about their bad experiences. To this day, neither one has been contacted by OIG – leading me to question their stated intention of addressing a problem.

The final thing I want to add is that as I left the interview that day, I forgot to ask what the process is for me to review my statement for accuracy. So I called SA [REDACTED] r and asked him. He advised that OIG does not do a review of the interview with interviewees for accuracy, which surprised me. I asked him to review with me on the phone what he was reporting I said. He began by reading to me that I had stated my EOD with the Bureau was July 8th, 1996. I stopped him and said “my EOD is July 7th, and that is a date that no Agent would get wrong ever, no matter the circumstances.” The inaccurate things he continued to read back to me only worsened until I asked him to correct everything and call me back. SA [REDACTED] r also did not include any of the things I said in mitigation about [REDACTED]. His report focused only on twisted and inaccurate things. I told SA [REDACTED] r I was concerned that he did not include any of the mitigating factors I had brought up, and that I felt his version of the interview was bias.

I never heard from SA [REDACTED] r after that and my concerns about his work and lack of attention to important detail were confirmed on August 11th when he inadvertently copied me on an internal OIG email concerning the death of Jeffrey Epstein the night before. I reported this egregious error to the FBI Security Division.

I had hoped for a re-interview, by another Agent on your team, but based on your email I am assuming you have decided against that. I have nothing bad to say about [REDACTED] on any level and I am disappointed that this investigation has dragged on so long and I am forced to recall details provided over 6 months ago to you now in this email.

Please let me know if you need anything further and I hope the information provided today is helpful.

Best,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] h

FBI Los Angeles

[REDACTED] v

(direct) [REDACTED] 2 | (cell) [REDACTED] 3

From: [REDACTED], [REDACTED] (OIG) [mailto:[REDACTED].gov]
Sent: Thursday, December 19, 2019 12:59 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@ov>
Cc: [REDACTED]@ov>
Subject: Re: [REDACTED] li re-interview

Hi [REDACTED],

Congratulations on your upcoming retirement from the FBI. We are currently operating with a very limited staff and we appreciate and understand you wanting to address this before you retire. ASAC Kurt [REDACTED] and I did discuss your concerns with our HQ Managers. Please go ahead and send ASAC [REDACTED] and I an email containing all of the additional information you would like to have included and we will ensure that your email is added as an attachment to SA [REDACTED]'s report of your interview. This is our usual procedure and it will give you the opportunity to provide all of your information in the exact manner you would like to present it.

Congratulations again on your retirement and Happy Holidays to you and your family. I am currently out on Use or Lose A/L and will be back to the office after the New Year Holiday. Thank you.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
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On Dec 13, 2019, at 3:33 PM, [REDACTED]
<[REDACTED]@ov> wrote:

Hello Sir!

It's [REDACTED] here from the FBI - now in LA. I appreciated the time you took to speak with me last month about my interview with [REDACTED] regarding his inquiry into ASAC [REDACTED].

As i stated, i am concerned about SA [REDACTED]'s report of what i said and still request to be re-interviewed by another Agent on your staff, which i believe was your thoughtful idea. I had thought i would have heard from someone by now.

I am retiring from the Bureau on January 8th and feel it is extremely important to address this while i am still an on-board employee.

Please let me know when i might hear from someone.

Best,

[REDACTED]